

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1 through 4 canceled.

5. (currently amended) A magazine-like carrier device for handling and heat treating a plurality of rectangular bags or film packs, said carrier device having a plurality of successively arranged, substantially parallel partitions to form receiving pockets for one of said film bags or film packs, each of said pockets being formed by a pair of spaced partitions arranged between two adjacent receiving pockets, said receiving pockets having a v-shaped bottom ~~being open at the bottoms thereof to receive said bags or film packs therein~~, and wherein the width of the carrier device substantially corresponds to the longest dimension of said bags or film packs to be received and wherein the height of the carrier device is smaller than the length of the shorter lateral edge of said bags or film packs received therein

6. (original) A carrier device according to claim 5, wherein the mutual spacing of said partitions forming said receiving pockets substantially corresponds to the thickness of the film packs received therein.

7. (original) A carrier device according to claim 6 wherein said partitions forming said receiving pockets are arranged in a slightly V-shaped manner with an opening angle of more than 0°.

8. (original) A carrier device according to claim 7 wherein said partitions are flexibly held on an elongated body so that said receiving pockets may be expanded while increasing the opening angle.

Claim 9 canceled.

10. (original) A carrier device according to claim 5 wherein said carrier device has a stackable construction.

11. (original) A carrier device according to claim 10 wherein said carrier device has a stackable construction so that said receiving pockets of one carrier device are partly positioned in gaps between receiving pockets of an adjacently arranged carrier device.